

Subjects and Predicates

2b. The **subject** tells whom or what the sentence is about, and the **predicate** says something about the subject.

The **complete subject** and the **complete predicate** may be only one word each, or they may be more than one word.

COMPLETE SUBJECT South Africa produces much of the world's gold.

COMPLETE PREDICATE South Africa **produces much of the world's gold.**

EXERCISE A Decide whether the subject or the predicate is underlined in each of the following sentences. On the line provided, write *S* for *subject* or *P* for *predicate*.

Example P 1. At a temperature of 2808 degrees Celsius, gold boils.

- _____ 1. Gold melts at 1064 degrees Celsius.
- _____ 2. A leaf of gold is less than one millimeter thick.
- _____ 3. Early craftworkers found ways to heat gold, pound it, and shape it to make jewelry.
- _____ 4. Gold items over four thousand years old have been found on the coast of the Black Sea.
- _____ 5. Currently, South Africa is the leading producer of gold in the world.
- _____ 6. Silver may be combined with gold to make jewelry.
- _____ 7. In the early 1960s, the largest discovery of gold in the United States in the twentieth century was made in Nevada.
- _____ 8. The first gold rush in the United States was in Georgia in 1828.
- _____ 9. In 1849 came the famous California gold rush.
- _____ 10. Was El Dorado, the legendary kingdom of gold, ever discovered?

EXERCISE B In each of the following sentences, draw one line under the complete subject and two lines under the complete predicate.

Example 1. Located in the northern part of Kentucky is Fort Knox.

11. The word *bullion* refers to bars or ingots of gold or silver.
12. Within steel and concrete vaults at Fort Knox lie bars of pure gold.
13. Since 1936, most of the gold in the United States has been kept at Fort Knox.
14. When did the United States stop minting gold coins?
15. Which country has the largest gold reserve?